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Area first responders help spread holiday cheer

The Paw Paw Police Department recently saw the return this year of Shop with a Hero 2025. Along with the Van Buren County Sheriff's Office, Paw Paw Fire Department, Van Buren Emergency Services (EMS) and the departments partnerships with Paw Paw Schools, Trinity and St. Mary's schools, holiday cheer was evident. Paw Paw Chief of Police Eric Rottman, said, "The kids had a great time shopping with their hero and having a pizza lunch. We would like to extend a special thank you to Walmart for hosting and providing lunch for the kids. Everyone is already looking forward to next year!"

Photos courtesy. Paw Paw Police Department

Bangor Twp. man dies from injuries following hit and run

BANGOR TWP. - A 34-year-old Bangor Township man was killed in a hit and run incident in Bangor Township on Wednesday. Dec. 17, at approximately 11:19 p.m., according to a press release from the Van Buren County Sheriff's Office.

Van Buren County Sheriff Daniel Abbott said Sheriff's deputies were dispatched to the 66000 block of 48th Avenue, in Bangor Township, on the report of an unresponsive male having been found in the roadway. Lifesaving measures were performed, but sadly, the victim, Anthony Michael Vanhees, passed away on-scene due to the severity of his injuries, believed to have been sustained as the result of having been struck by a vehicle. A residential camera system, located in the vicinity of the scene, captured VanHees walking eastbound, past the house, just a few minutes prior to a light-colored pickup truck observed traveling westbound.

In an update, the Van Buren County Sheriff's Office reported the owner of a truck shown in a video that officers were attempting to identify saw a newscast and contacted the Van Buren County Sheriff's Office. Detectives responded to his residence and confirmed that the individual had driven through the area at the time shown in the surveillance footage. Both the driver and his passenger said they did pass through the area during that time and observed a man sitting alongside the roadway who did not appear injured. Detectives found no damage to the vehicle or other evidence indicating it was involved in striking the man.

The investigation remains ongoing. The Van Buren County Sheriff's Office is requesting the public's assistance with any information that may assist with this investigation.

Lawrence Police Chief retires

Following five years as the Village of Lawrence Chief of Police, Paul Bianco retired Friday, Dec. 18. Bianco said in a social media post, "Getting to know the citizens of this small community, along with the Lawrence schools, the VBISD, and local businesses, was very rewarding. Re-establishing the Lawrence Police Department that closed in 2002 was a challenge that I will always cherish, as my many years at Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety and in the Army prepared me well for this role. I appreciate everyone who helped and supported me along the way, especially Betty and Nic." Bianco, at left, is shown with former Village of Lawrence police officer, Greg Cordes, now Village of Lawton Police Chief.

Courtesy photo

Man found guilty on all 18 counts from July 4, bombing incident

On Dec. 18, Morgan Parish was found guilty by a jury on all 18 counts listed low with reference to a July 4, bombing incident. During the trial, several members of the Van Buren County SWAT Team testified regarding the events that took place that day, according to a press release from the Van Buren County Sheriff's Office.

The press release said, "A special thanks to the Van Buren County Prosecutor for their hard work and dedication to this extremely difficult case."

It continued, "Deputies and officers assigned to the multi-jurisdictional SWAT Team demonstrated exceptional restraint and professionalism during the July 4 incident, ultimately resolving the situation without anyone being seriously injured or killed."

Van Buren County Sheriff Daniel Abbott said that he is proud of all the deputies and officers who responded to the incident and is grateful that justice was served. "It was a truly dangerous situation that was handled with exceptional professionalism."

Van Buren County Undersheriff Casey Davis, SWAT Commander, said that this outcome is a true testament to the training, teamwork, and professionalism of the Van Buren County SWAT Team. "Several SWAT officers immediately set aside their personal plans that day to respond and ensure the safety of the public."

The Van Buren County SWAT Team is a multi-jurisdictional unit comprised of deputies and officers from the Van Buren County Sheriff's Office, South Haven Police Department, Lawton Police Department, and Mattawan Police Department.

Parish was found guilty on the following counts - Count 1 – terrorism; Counts 2 - 9 - assault with intent to murder; Counts 10-12 - explosive - possess bombs with unlawful intent; Count 13 – mfg./pos. exp. or incend. dev. w/mal. inten did manufacture, buy, sell, furnish, or possess a device designed to explode; Counts 14 – 15 - mfg./pos. exp. or incend. dev. w/mal. inten did manufacture, buy, sell, furnish, or possess a device designed to explode; Count 16 – weapons – firearms -ammunition – possession by prohibited person a felon; Counts 17 – 18 police officer - assault/restrict/obstruct

Sheriff's Report– County Mounted Division member helps out following medical call

Van Buren County Sheriff's deputies responded to a medical call with an individual that was unresponsive. "Life saving measures were taken, but unfortunately the victim could not be saved. Our office responds to these types of calls on a regular basis. I'm mentioning this call due to the widow having health issues and not knowing how she'd be able to feed their horses. Without hesitation, Brittany Hood, a member of our mounted division, responded to the scene and took care of the horses for her while deputies assisted her with everything else at the scene. Our condolences go out to the family and friends," said Van Buren County Sheriff Daniel Abbott.

Deputies responded to a domestic situation in Bloomingdale Township. Upon arrival, the suspect's vehicle was stuck in the driveway. Deputies investigated the incident and arrested the suspect on numerous charges which were domestic violence-knowing assaulting a pregnant individual (third offense), home invasion (first degree), and malicious destruction of a building over $100.

Deputies handled a break-in call in Antwerp Township. A residence under a remodel was broken into and hand tools were taken. "Anyone with any information is asked to call our office," said Sheriff Abbott.

Deputies handled numerous larcenies and larcenies from motor vehicles in Bloomindale, Bloomingdale Township, Columbia Township, Waverly Township, and Paw Paw Township. Videos from surveillance cameras and other evidence show multiple suspects jumping out of a car and running up to victim's yards/cars. The suspect vehicle which was stolen out of Kalamazoo was located at Fox Ridge Apartments in Kalamazoo. A stolen iPad was able to be tracked to the vehicle location. "Once again it appears that the suspects are from the Kalamazoo area coming into our county, committing crimes, then going back to Kalamazoo. Once again, they came over in a stolen vehicle to commit the crimes. The case remains open and is still being investigated. I cannot stress enough about locking your vehicles and not keeping valuables in plain sight in your vehicle," said Sheriff Abbott.

"I would like to thank Tractor Supply from the Paw Paw and South Haven locations for their continued generosity in donating food, treats, and toys to our Animal Control Shelter," said Sheriff Abbott.

"I would like to thank Almena Happy Helpers 4-H Club members for their donation to our Animal Control Shelter. In November, they donated dog food and cleaning supplies. This past week, they donated toys for shelter dogs to help with the stress and boredom the dogs face," said Sheriff Abbott.

"Congratulations to Jacob Florey for graduating from Kalamazoo Valley Community College's 100th Police Academy to become our newest uniform response deputy. Jacob worked in the dispatch center prior to being sponsored to attend the academy. We are all very excited for him to start his new career and have no doubt he'll represent our office well," said Sheriff Abbott.

"This past weekend we did our annual "Shop with the Sheriff." The families we shop with are selected by our school resource deputies who work in the schools and know who would really benefit and appreciate the gifts from this event. The funding comes from our Reserve Division, Meijer stores, and anonymous donors, so no public funds are ever used. It is one of the highlights of the year we enjoy doing for the community. It's always a good feeling after we are done shopping with the kids and parents knowing we were able to help them make their Christmas more special and less stressful. I would like to note that we don't take pictures with the kids or families out of respect. If the families want to take pictures and post them, we leave it up to them," said Sheriff Abbott.

Maple Island Bridge Project nears completion

The Maple Island Bridge project is substantially complete. There are just a few items to be finished in the spring, including repair to the concrete sidewalk and asphalt near the entrance to the bridge, the installation of benches and a waste receptacle, the placement of a new aluminum dock near the island end of the bridge, and a new sign, according to Paw Paw Village Manager Bryan Myrkle. "The village has also asked Riverworks, the bridge contractor, to make repairs to the dock near the boat launch in Sunset Park. The bridge project cost approximately $760,000, with most of that money coming from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund and the from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021," said Myrkle. Courier-Leader photo/ Paul Garrod

Wreaths Across America ceremony at cemetery

A Wreaths Across America wreath laying ceremony was held Saturday, Dec. 13, at Arlington Hill Cemetery, Bangor. Dan Farmer played "Taps." Photos courtesy/Paul DeYoung

PPPS Transportation Department wins holiday parade top honors

Angela Vasquez, Paw Paw Public Schools Transportation Director, right, accepts a $500 check from Mary Springer, Paw Paw Downtown Development Authority Director. The check represents the grand prize for Paw Paw's Christmas in the Village Children's Lighted Holiday Parade, held Dec. 12. The parade entry was based on the movie, "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation." Courier-Leader photo/Paul Garrod

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2ND FRONT PAGE

City Manager rewarded with new contract for 2026

By James Windell

On the same night, Kate Hosier, South Haven's City Manager, was awarded a new contract for the coming year, she gave the City Council a glowing report of her and the City's accomplishments this past year.

Both the new contract and her 2025 Year-End Summary were on the agenda at the regular meeting of the South Haven City Council on Monday, December 15, 2025. With an employment agreement aimed at providing Hosier a new contract for 2026, there was a relatively quick approval – although there was a brief interlude in which Councilwoman Mary Hosley attempted to derail approval of the amount of her raise and retention bonus that were included in the new agreement.

"I met and negotiated with the City Manager, and you have the results in front of you," said Mayor Annie Brown in introducing the employment agreement. After a December 1, 2025, City Council meeting, the Council held a closed-door session to review Hosier's performance for the year.

Following that closed session, Brown said that the Council conducted a performance evaluation on Hosier and noted that over all her scores improved from last year.

"Kate remains a high performer and provides exceptional leadership to city staff, residents and stakeholders," said Brown following the evaluation.

Prior to the December 15 City Council meeting, Brown met with Hosier to hammer out the details of a new agreement.

"As you know," Brown said this past Monday, "she had a very strong evaluation. So, this was an easy decision, and we are lucky to have her."

The new agreement read in part that "The City shall pay to Employee as compensation for services rendered an annual salary of $130,000.00 payable in accordance with the payroll schedule applicable to other employees of the City. Subsequent adjustments in Employee's salary shall be made in conjunction with the annual performance review/ evaluation of Employee conducted by the City Council.

Kate Hosier

If, due to general budget cutbacks, a reduction is made to Employee's and City department directors' salaries, Employee's salary shall not be reduced by a larger percentage than the average percentage reduction for department directors."

The agreement also stated: "Salary adjustments during Employee's employment will be based upon relevant factors including without limitation, Employee's formal performance review, City Charter requirements, budget limits, availability of funds, provisions of state law, and compensation adjustments for other City employees under any plan/ policy adopted by the City Council. Any such future adjustments for Employees' annual salary shall take effect as of January 1st. In addition to any salary or other payments owed to Employee, the City shall pay to Employee a one-time payment of $5,000.00 as a retention incentive. Such retention incentive shall be paid to Employee in the first pay period following the effective date of this First Addendum."

However, before a motion could be introduced to approve the new agreement, Councilwoman Mary Hosley objected to the amount of the raise and the bonus. "After the closed meeting we discussed it and it was my understanding there would be a 3% -- not a 4% raise – and that there would be a $3000 bonus – not a $5000 bonus," Hosley said. "That's been decided and I learned of this through this document."

Brown agreed with Hosley and added that the raise and bonus were "the result of negotiation."

"But we all agreed that the 3% raise and the $3,000 bonus were recommended," countered Hosley, "and that recommendation appeared unanimous after the meeting has been changed without any consultation or input, at least from me."

Brown indicated she had consulted with other City Council members.

City Attorney Dave Eberle then suggested that a motion should be made to approve the employment agreement before there was further discussion. Councilman Jeff Arnold made that motion and it was seconded by George Sleeper.

Hosley followed this up by making a motion to amend the Arnold motion to change the City Manager salary to $128,750 and to reduce the bonus to $3,000. That motion, however, died because it was not seconded.

Before a vote on the Arnold motion was called for, Hosley said: "The City Manager serves at the pleasure of the City Council, and the City Council for years has set the pay raise, and these were not negotiated and this has taken a different course. I believe it is not very transparent in not contacting each City Council member about the change."

A roll call vote was then called for and it passed by a 4 to 1 margin.

Following the meeting, Mayor Brown said that she acted at the request of the City Council and within her authority in negotiating the city manager's contract. "During the open session at the Dec. 1 City Council meeting," Brown said, "the Council discussed possible pay increases and incentive payments for the city manager. The purpose of this discussion was to provide a starting point for future contract negotiations. During the meeting, the City Council also directed me to further negotiate a contract between the City and the city manager. That is exactly what I did."

She also added that as directed by the City Council, she consulted with the City's human resources director and the City Attorney's Office during the negotiations.

"The City has accomplished so much this year, thanks to the dedication of our staff and the leadership of our exceptional city manager," Brown added.

Governor Whitmer and Other State Dignitaries Honor City Councilman George Sleeper

By James Windell

For the past eight years, George Sleeper's life revolved around the schedule of the South Haven City Council. When he leaves the council at the end of December 2025, he and his wife Margaret hope to do more traveling.

"With my daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren in Seattle and my son in Boston," Sleeper said in a recent interview, "we have plenty of places to go."

When he decided to run for the City Council in 2017, he was not only looking at ways to give back to the community, but he thought he would be retiring from the Palisades Nuclear Power Plant because it seemed certain it was closing down. Once he had committed to running for City Council and won, Palisades decided to keep going and so Sleeper was working fulltime at the nuclear power plant and learning the ropes as a city council member.

Serving as a City Council member since January 2018, he says that the experience has been highly enjoyable. Perhaps not for the reasons you might imagine though.

"It was a very worthwhile experience because I enjoyed meeting people, talking to people and learning," Sleeper says. "I enjoy learning and I learned a lot about how the city works and how the different boards and commissions are involved with how the city works."

There were several highlights of Sleeper's tenure on the City Council.

"I would say one of the highlights was the people I got to work with, both on the City Council and on other committees," he says. "There were many really good people and being on some good subcommittees I got to work with different people."

Sleeper has served on the Planning Commission, the Liberty Hyde Bailey Museum, and the Board of Public Utilities. As a member of the Planning Commission, he says that he had the opportunity to be on the subcommittee that worked on a new zoning ordinance. That, he adds, "was very interesting work." With a background as an electrical engineer, he says that he has enjoyed being on the Board of Public Utilities and he indicates he would like to stay on that Board.

Along with the highlights, there were also low points for him as a council member. Being removed from the Planning Commission and replaced by another City Council member was a disappointment for him. "Since I had worked on the subcommittee to revise the zoning ordinance, I wanted to see that through," he says.

There have been other frustrations as well. "The STR ordinance was something I felt was frustrating because we had gone through it, but looking back I don't think we did a very good job. Perhaps we got involved in the drafting of the ordinance more than we should have."

Since he retired from Palisades, he comments that he has been trying to learn Spanish and to research his ancestry. While he and Margaret will be traveling more after he leaves the City Council, he thinks he is going to "hang out for a while and see how much free time I have." Although he adds that he might be open to another board or commission appointment "if the city needs me to do that."

Aa a 40-year resident of South Haven, his commitment to the city will be as strong as ever – even though he will no longer be on the City Council.

"One of the things I like about South Haven is that we have all sorts of people who help make our community better," he says. "The City does a lot for us, but it's our citizens who do so much to make our community what it is."

Hodgman honored at Scott Club lighting ceremony

The historic Scott Club in South Haven is bathed in holiday glory for the first time in more than 130 years as a new exterior lighting system was unveiled this past weekend.

Members and friends of the Scott Club gathered outside the 132- year-old landmark for a celebration of the life of member Carole Hodgman who passed away in March. A resident of South Haven for over 50 years, Carole made a profound impact on her community through her work as a dedicated educator, her philanthropic contributions and her passion for gardening. Her family made possible the funding for the project which is capable of providing lighting schemes to fit the season.

Built in 1893 and known in its early years as Literary Hall, the building was designed by John Cornelius Randall, who designed many elegant homes in South Haven. It is built of Indiana sandstone, in Queen Anne architecture style with a Moorish dome. A designated Michigan Historic Site, the Scott Club name honors Sir Walter Scott, a Scottish novelist, poet, playwright and historian. The current Scott Club membership is in the midst of a project to make the building more accessible with the installation of an elevator-style lift.

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Volunteers turn out to help with Paw Paw Community Christmas Baskets

Marking the 48th year, Christmas boxes for 80 families were prepared by members of the Paw Paw Lions Club and others, as part of the club's Community Christmas Baskets program. The boxes, located at the Paw Paw Lions Club building, were distributed to Paw Paw area residents on Saturday morning, Dec. 20. Partnering with United Christian Services, an additional 40 boxes were prepared for senior citizens, bringing the total to 120 area families and individuals. The boxes contained food items for two weeks during the Christmas break. Paw Paw Lions Club member and organizer Don Brown said more than 100 volunteers took part in the project, which saw more than 800 boxes filled with food items including turkey, hot dogs, chicken sausage, pork roast, hamburger, flour, sugar, margarine, milk and cereal. Courier-Leader photo/Paul Garrod

Lawrence Community Food Pantry receives check from Arbor CU

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Sarah Goudie, center, branch manager of Arbor Financial Credit Union, Paw Paw, presents a check for $2,500 to the Lawerence Community Food Pantry, operated from the Lawrence United Methodist Church. Shown at left, Lawrence Community Food Pantry members, Sal Campagna, Ken Thompson, Gayle Crandall, Goudie, Denise Campagna, Lawrence United Methodist Church Pastor Doug Tipken, and Noah Nower. Courier-Leader photo/Paul Garrod

Paw Paw Knights of Columbus distribute checks to four local organizations

The Paw Paw Knights of Columbus recently distributed checks totaling $3,000 to four local organizations that serve children and adults with cognitive disabilities. Recipients include the Van Buren A.R.C., Van Buren M.T.I., Van Buren Intermediate School District (VBISD) and the Kalamazoo Diocese. "We are blessed to have these organizations that are willing to serve the educational, social, employment and spiritual needs of these special members of our community. We want to thank everyone who was able to contribute to our "Tootsie Roll" drive. Your generosity is making a positive difference. Also, a special thanks to Family Fare and Save a Lot for letting us use their storefronts to collect our donations, said Phil Hover, Paw Paw Knights of Columbus spokesperson. Shown in photo at Bert Goens Learning Center, one of the recipients of the 2025 Tootsie Roll drive donations, Phil Hover, project chairman; Monica Mansfield VBISD Special Ed Director; Gillian Joseph, BGLC Assistant Principal; students, Amanda, Nathan, Kameron, and Kloey; Adrienne Davis, BGLC Principal; and Mike Garvey, K of C Grand Knight Photo courtesy/Paw Paw Knights of Columbus

PP Board of Ed accepts financial donations from two individuals

By Paul Garrod
Staff Writer
news4garrod@gmail.com

PAW PAW - Two separate donations totaling $7,000 for Paw Paw Public Schools' groups, organizations and grants were accepted by the Paw Paw Board of Education a the board's Monday, Dec. 8, meeting.

A donation totaling $6,000 from Robert Gaudio, was accepted by the board. The financial donation will be used for the high school athletic department, the high school band,, the high school Performing Arts, high school robotics and Paw Paw Public Schools' teacher grants.

A $1,000 donation from Danielle Jacobs-Dykstra, was accepted by the board. The funds were earmarked for the high school Performing Arts.

The board approved the hiring of Stefanie Koerner as a later elementary fifth grade teacher and also approved the appointment of Leah Kline as a middle school Science Olympiad assistant coach.

The board accepted the resignation of Victoria Kerns as the high school freshman volleyball coach.

The board's next meeting will be held Jan. 12, at 7 p.m. at the high school media center.

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Pickleball club raises $1240 for Al-Van

The South Haven Pickleball Club is proud to announce a donation of $1,240 to the Al-Van Humane Society, reinforcing its commitment to the local organizations that make South Haven a vibrant place to live and play. The funds were raised during the club's recent Christmas party, an event that celebrated both the holiday season and the club's deep roots in the community.

The check was presented to Cindy Moreen of Al-Van, whose organization provides vital shelter, care, and adoption services for animals in need.

"We believe in giving back to the community that supports us," said Mike Sawyer, of the South Haven Pickleball Club. "Al-Van Humane Society's work is vital, and we're honored to contribute to their efforts. We are especially grateful to our generous members and our party committee for their vision and energy—they turned our holiday celebration into a way to truly impact the lives of animals and our neighbors in South Haven."

The donation reflects the club's ongoing dedication to community service, extending its impact far beyond the pickleball courts. By supporting the Al-Van Humane Society, the club hopes to inspire other local groups to assist the nonprofits that enrich the South Haven area.

Members of the South Haven Pickleball Club present a $1,240 donation check to Cindy Moreen of the Al Van Humane Society, supporting the organization's mission to care for and find homes for animals in need.

SH Indivisible members donate toys

South Haven, MI – Members of South Haven Indivisible are surrounded by a fraction of the toys that the group collected during the Salvation Army's Angel Tree Toy Drive. Indivisible members chose their angel tags from a tree filled with them at the OMNI Community Credit Union in Bangor, Michigan. Each tag contained information about a child's gender and age. Nonpartisan South Haven Indivisible focuses on protecting democracy through peaceful protests, activism and community activities

Layendecker receives mayor's service award

By James Windell

Paul Layendecker, COSY Radio Vice President of Content and morning host, was presented with the Mayor's Service Award at Monday night's South Haven City Council meeting.

During the December 15, 2025, City Council Meeting, Mayor Annie Brown said Layendecker's five decades in broadcasting have made a difference in countless ways.

Reading the award, Brown said that Paul Layendecker has been the voice of "our community by amplifying local stories, supporting civic life, and strengthening connections throughout Southwest Michigan." She went on to say that he has made remarkable contributions to the community through his leadership, visibility, and dedication as a long-time broadcaster and civic volunteer in South Haven.

Brown said that Layendecker has used his position to amplify the work of local nonprofits, promote community events, and bring attention to causes that support neighbors in need. The award states that "His influence extends beyond the airwaves, as he has championed efforts that uplift people across the region. Paul's civic involvement includes leadership roles with the We Care Community Resource Center, where he served as President of the Board and actively supports programs that assist families facing hardship; previously the Chair of the Van Buren County United Way Campaign; and the former President of the South Haven Kiwanis Club, all reflecting his commitment to service above self."

The award also notes that the longtime radio host of COSY Classic Hits 103.7 FM has also been recognized for his ongoing community engagement with honors such as the South Haven Rotary Community Service Award and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the South Haven Area Chamber of Commerce.

The Service Award closes by stating that "Through these efforts and countless hours of volunteerism, Paul has inspired residents to support one another, celebrate what makes South Haven special, and contribute to a community that thrives because of connections made through service and generosity."

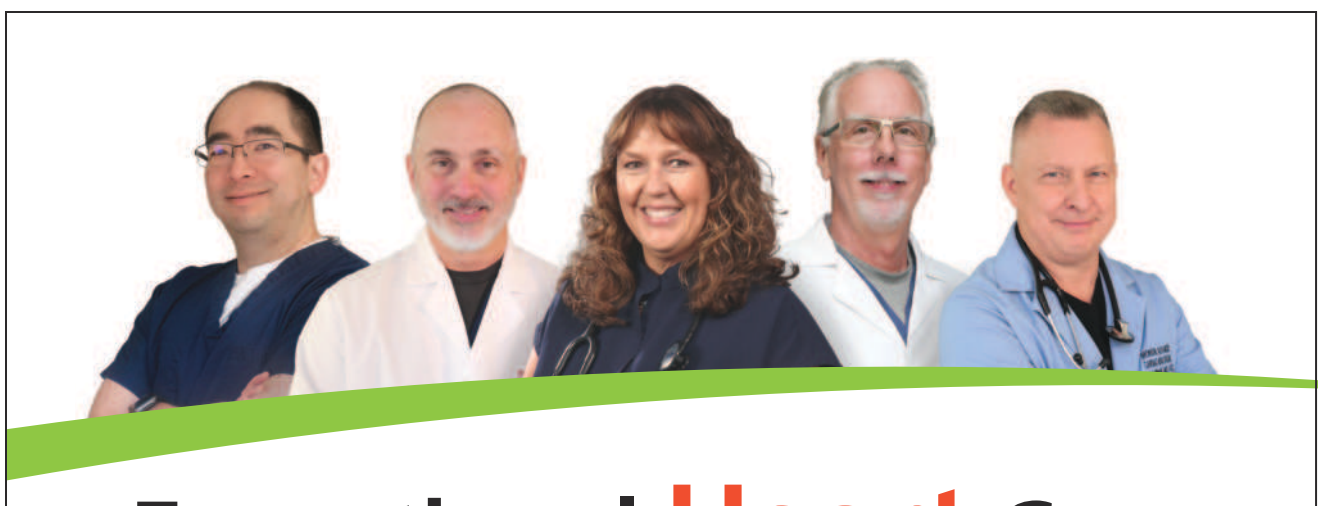
In accepting the award, Layendecker talked about his beloved charity We Care. He said that We Care Community Resource Center has been his heart and soul for many years and he will continue to support it. He added, "Mayor, thank you for the honor. I truly love this community and I will continue to do what I do."

Brown later said that she was honored to present Paul Layendecker with the 2025 Mayor's Service Award. "Paul is an amazing gift to our city and to Southwest Michigan," she said.

SH Elks donate to two charities

Exalted Ruler, Spencer Campbell, of South Haven Elks Lodge #1509 presents a Gratitude Grant check in the amount of $3,500 to Don Kitchen, Director of the South Haven First Congregational Church Food Pantry. Part of the Elks National Foundation's Community Investments Program, Gratitude Grants support local projects that help meet immediate community needs.

In addition, South Haven Elks Lodge #1509 awarded a Beacon Grant check in the amount of $6,000 to We Care. The grant supports service projects that provide direct assistance to local families and fund hands-on, Lodge-driven initiatives addressing homelessness, hunger, and basic necessities. Don Kitchen accepted the check on behalf of We Care.



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BRONSON

VIEWPOINT

Family, giving spirit make Christmas special

MIKE'S MUSINGS

MIKE WILCOX ■ PUBLISHER ■

As I get older Christmas had taken on a different meaning, than when I was young. I still remember waking up at dawn and running down the stair steps to see what Santa had left me under the Christmas tree. Each holiday season was truly a joyous occasion, as my siblings and I opened up presents that included the latest toys and technological wonders.Now I could care less. Christmas now means a time to spend with those same siblings that through life's twist and turns you see far less often than you would like. It is also a time to give to others. Last Saturday was just one of those magical times, I was able to break bread and enjoy conversation with two sisters and a brother. I call it magical because it was the first time in several decades that no children or grandchildren were invited. It was just the five of us (actually four, my youngest sister was unable to make it- stuck in Florida with an ailing husband) and our spouses.

It was magical, because instead of spending time chasing the grandkids around the house, we sat down for hours catching up on what everyone was up to- a new house for my brother, a cruise from one sister, and a new car for another. More importantly we were able to boast about the glory days, as Bruce Springsteen would call them, when I was a gifted athlete, and my sisters' were excellent scholars. We haven't had the opportunity to do that in many years. Don't get me wrong, sons and daughters and grandkids are very fun to have around, but this was so awesome, being able to conjure up life as it was several years ago, with the people you are the closest to and will forever be.

Family is important. If you have had the privilege to see Clint Eastwood's "The Mule", he lived a life that didn't much include family. He was estranged from his wife and daughter until he began running drugs as the ripe age of 88, realizing he wasn't immortal and suddenly yearned to be with his family more than anything else in life. He lost dozens of years with family in a trade-off for business, only to discover at the end of life, family was more important than any business.

It is also important, however, to give to the less fortunate. Whether it be at a soup kitchen on Thanksgiving or Christmas, or adopting a family to provide presents or food to, giving is more important than receiving. For the past several years we have asked readers in need to write us at several of my newspapers during the Christmas season. Some of the letters will bring tears to your eye. You really have no idea how some people in your community survive. Some survive without heat, others without food or shelter. It is a darn shame that any family in America should have to live like some of our neighbors do.

As I write this I am proud to say, thanks to the generosity of area businesses and several concerned individual contributors, I am writing checks to dozens of families so that they can provide for their children during Christmas. All told, we will probably send out nearly $15,000 to these families. I can't thank those businesses and individuals enough, who have helped us provide. You are truly an inspiration to me and I can tell you unequivocally that the families on the receiving end are very grateful.

I pray that each and every one of you have a Merry Christmas. Remember family and remember to "help thy neighbor."

OBITUARY

Sharon Lee Stevens

Sharon Lee Stevens, 79, of Paw Paw, passed away peacefully Monday, Dec. 15, 2025, at Maple Lake Assisted Living, Paw Paw. She was born March 1, 1946, in Paw Paw, Michigan, the daughter of Lester C. Monroe and Janet (Weston) Monroe.

Sharon worked as a beautician for 45 years. She truly loved her job and adored her clients. She was involved in many local organizations, serving as a Boy and Girl Scout leader for her children's troops and was a Queen member of the Red Hat Society. She loved the outdoors and admired the beauty of nature. Sharon often traveled up north to camp and always preferred to be outside, rather than indoors.

She is survived by her husband, Lynn W. Stevens; daughter, Shauna (Richard) Athey; son, Darick (RaeEllen) Stevens; and three grandchildren, Jay Stevens, Rachel Athey and Katelyn Athey.

Sharon was preceded in passing by her parents and sister, Shirley Tellam.

Cremation will take place. Per Sharon's wishes, there will be no public services at this time. The family asks donations to be directed toward the Alzheimer's Association.

Share a memory or sign the online guestbook at adamspawpaw.com

News Briefs

Palisades restart planned for early 2026

"The Palisades restart remains on track within our restart window and under budget," said Holtec spokesperson Nick Culp, commenting on the restart with an original date planned by the end of the year.

Culp continued, "We are planning for a return to service in early 2026. The plant will return to service once all of our scheduled restart activities are completed to meet high federal and industry standards, supporting long-term safe and reliable operations."

Decatur VFW to Hold Christmas Dinner for Community Protectors

DECATUR – A Christmas Day Dinner for community protectors – police, fire, EMS, corrections, road crews and veterans, will be held Thursday, Dec. 25, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Decatur VFW Post 6248.

For pick up orders, call ahead at (269) 423-7454. To volunteer for the event, contact Kevin Conklin at (269) 506-9384.

Reverse raffle to benefit construction of Gold Star Families Monument in Paw Paw

DECATUR - The Decatur VFW Post 6248 will hold a Reverse Raffle, Saturday, Jan. 24, 2026, from 5:30 to 11:30 p.m. at the Decatur VFW Hall, 560 N. Phelps St.

Prizes include a $7,500 grand prize, and 50/50 drawings. Only 200 tickets will be available. Each ticket includes one dinner from the Pasta Bar and Salad Bar with all the trimmings. Additional dinner tickets are available for $15. Dinner will be served at 6 p.m., with the raffle starting at 7 p.m.

Tickets are $100 and may be purchased at the Post or contact Rini Conklin at (269) 919-2999. Need not be present to win.

All proceeds will go to the construction of A Gold Star Families monument in Paw Paw.

THE COURIER LEADER
PAW PAW FLASHES
SOUTH HAVEN BEACON

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Service Veterans Receive Christmas Baskets

Van Buren County Veterans Services on Saturday morning, Dec. 13, prepared 30 Christmas baskets, each with a turkey and trimmings, that were delivered to American Legions and Veterans of Foreign Wars organizations throughout the county. Family Fare, Paw Paw, provided the turkeys and food items at a notable discount to Van Buren County Veterans Services. Courier-Leader photo/Paul Garrod

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Fri., January 2 10:30 am-noon ADULTS: Memory Café Musician Greg "Juan" Cordes
Sat., January 3 10:30 am-noon EVERYONE: Jigsaw Puzzle Competition Ages 8 & up Registration required
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BRONSON

Mattawan native has big day in title game

Mattawan's Jalen Jones (42) helped Ferris win a national title.

By John Raffel
Correspondent

MATTAWAN — Jalen Jones' last game for Ferris State's University football team was huge.

Jones, who is a former Mattawan football player, had three solo tackles including two for losses in Ferris' 42-21 win over Harding, Ark, in the NCAA Division II title game on De. 20 in McKinney Texas.

Jones was hurt for several games but had an outstanding playoff run in five games with three interceptions including a pick six.

Ferris won its fourth national title in five years.

Jones said in preseason 2025 would be special and he was right.

"I'm trying to grind every day and compete every day and be my best," Jones said. "I'm trying to get the young guys going and show them how to do things. I'm trying to get them in good spirits and cheer everything on.

"Everybody needs to improve every day."

To be at Ferris "feels great, it's the reason I stay here. I got here in 2020 and ever since I've grown to love it even more," Jones said.

He was a standout defensive back at Mattawan High School and earned numerous varsity letters. He was a multi-year performer and letterwinner on the prep level and named to the Kalamazoo Gazette Football Dream Team, He played quarterback on the offensive side of the ball. He was also an all-conference basketball selection."

Gobles wrestlers continue to shine

By John Raffel
Correspondent

GOBLES - The Gobles girls wrestling team continues to show grit and determination even against the toughest opponents, coach Dan Morris said.

This week Gobles traveled to Watervliet for dual action with the boys team and then hit the mats on Saturday in Brandywine.

Alyssa Sparks stepped into action on Wednesday on the boys' team, pinning her opponent from Watervliet in under a minute, contributing six points to Gobles 69-12 win over Watervliet.

"Saturday on our trip to Brandywine for their Bobcat invitational, Alyssa started with a loss to a tough opponent but snapped back to win her next match. Her last match of the day was a loss to Coloma, earning her 4th place.

"Freedom Morris was ready for business on Saturday," girl coach Dan Morris said. "With probably the toughest bracket for our team, she wrestled with heart and determination. After winning her first match of the day, she wrestled against a tough opponent from West Zeeland,coming up short. She hit that mental reset button and came back to win her next three matches, all by pin. For her last match of the day, she got a rematch with her Zeeland West for third place. She battled her toughest match of the day, ultimately coming up short and taking fourth place.

"Ashlyn Myers continues to impress with her mat aggressiveness and athleticism. She made quick work of her first opponent with a nice double leg straight to a half nelson. After a tough second round loss, Ashlyn adjusted her pace and won the next two matches with ruthless aggression and speed, pinning her fourth opponent in 45 seconds. Her last two matches of the were rough as she battled though injury and pain. Ashlyn finished the day in 6th place. She gets better every week, and we can't wait to see what is next."

Morris added, "Jasmine Gutierrez continues to find success weekly.

The girls next round of competition will be held in Three Rivers Jan. 2.

Paw Paw boys win in overtime

Truman Brennan has passed the 1,000 points career mark.

By John Raffel
Correspondent

PAW PAW — Paw Paw's boys basketball team defeat Edwardsbirg on Tuesday Dec. 16 in overtime 51-49

Paw Paw trailed 20-17 at halftime and it was tied 30-30 after the third quarter and 42-42 at the end of regulation.

For Paw Paw, stat leaders were

Truman Brennan 27 Pts, 5 Rebs, 1 Assist, 3 Steals, 1 Block.

Caden Bowen 7 Pts, 6 Rebs, 2 Assists, 1 Steal, 1 Block.

Kaelin Tate 5 Pts, 8 Rebs, 3 Assists, 1 Steal, 1 Block.

"This was a nice bounce back game for the Red Wolves after two losses last week," coach Aaron Beery said. "Unity Christian 43-57 and at Plainwell 33-38). It was also a historic day for the Paw Paw Boys Basketball program. Truman Brennan came into the game needing just 18 points to cross the 1,000 career point threshold.

"Truman ended with a game high 27 points and the Red Wolves on his back. Defense for the Red Wolves was suffocating all night but the Eddies would not go out without a fight. Both teams had multiple chances to win the game in regulation, but instead they settled for overtime. Antonio Rivas sealed the game with a game winning basket with less than a minute left in the game. Chase Boff had the stop of the game as he blocked a corner 3 with less than 2 seconds left on the clock. The Eddies did not manage to get a shot off.:

Paw Paw also beat Niles 69-55 on Dec 18 and Grand Rapids Christian 59-57 on Dec. 22. They lost to South Bend St. Joseph 85-57 and have a 4-3 record.

Lawrence boys defeat Marcellus

By John Raffel
Correspondent

LAWRENCE — Coach Noah Wiswary's Lawrence boys basketball team enjoyed a 64-43 win over Marcellus on Dec, 19 to enter the holiday break with a 4-3 record

After a slow start that saw Marcellus take a 7-2 lead, the Tigers responded with a 14-0 run to seize control, finishing the first quarter ahead 16-7.

"Lawrence continued its momentum in the second quarter, highlighted by Michael Smith knocking down two three-pointers, as the Tigers took a 38-15 lead into halftime," Wisary said.

"Balanced scoring and strong contributions across the lineup fueled a solid second half, leading to the victory."

Alex Gardner led all scorers with 26 points, while Michael Smith added 13.

The Tigers improved to a 4-3 record. They will play on Jan 1 against Watervliet at Little Caesars Arena in Detroit.

The Lawrence girls basketball team is 2-2 going into holiday break and will also play Watervliet on Jan. 1.

Lawrence has wins over Eau Claire 47-23 and Bloomingdale 49-17

Gobles boys pick up two wins

Aden Newberry has been among Gobles' top scorers this season.

By John Raffel
Correspondent

GOBLES — Gobles' undefeated boys basketball team picked up two wins last week, 52-48 over Allegan and 59-46 over Holland Black River.

Carter Crippin had 16 points, Aden Newberry scored 13 points. Gibson Curtis had 10 points

and Jayden Otis 10 points.

Last Friday, Curtis had 25 points, andCarter Crippin had 13 points, five rebounds and five assists.

Aden Newberry had 13 points and 13 rebounds

Gobles moves to 6-0 and 3-0 in the conference this year.

Gobles will resume action on Jan. 6 at Lawton and will be at Galesburg-Augusta. The next home game is Jan. 12 with Marcellus.

The Gobles girls basketball team is also undefeated.

The girls have defeated Bloomingdale's 63-6, Decatur 36-22, Delton-Kellogg 48-20, Coloma 71-30 and Holland Black River 50-40.

John Curtis coaches the boys team. Greg Barber coaches the girls at Gobles.

Paw Paw wrestlers fall to two opponents

By John Raffel
Correspondent

PAW PAW — Paw Paw's wresting team lost 61-12 to Otsego and 56-24 to Plainwell on Dec. 17 in double dual action.

For Paw Paw against Otsego:

Victor Armijo pinned Game Conley in 36 seconds at 175 pounds, Micah Brown pinned Noah Barber in 5:25 at 138 pounds,

In the loss to Plainwell, Aaron Quiles (285) pinned Carter Richie in 32 seconds at 285 pounds, Kholby Armco pinned Aiden Beck in 5:36 a 165 pounds, Victor Arijob pinned Matthew Moore in 109 at 175 pounds and Gunner Gale pinned Micah Young at 190 pounds in 3:22.

Benton Hollingsworth lost a technical fall 23-7 to Javan Mills of Plainwell at 113 pounds. Mason Volenski lost on a pinn in 56 seconds at 120 pounds. Lucas Turanzus, Micah Brown, David Pokorny and Tyler Pentland lost their matches for Paw Paw.

South Haven bowlers endure busy week

By John Raffel
Correspondent

SOUTH HAVEN — South Haven bowlers endured what was a busy but prosperous week.

Last week was a busy week for the Rams.

"After dropping our first match of the season vs Parchment on Dec. 3, we rebounded (Dec. 6) with a good placement at the Jenison Invitational, qualifying for bracket play and finishing in fifth place," coach Gary Guthrie said.

On Dec. 10, our match was vs Saugatuck, which we won 23-7, total pins was 1,854 to 1393, with a couple of great series by senior Jadon Schneider 180 and 247 (427) and junior Ryan O'Dell 212 and 210 (422). Also a very solid performance by senior Brody Strebeck 179 and 180 (359) as well as newcomer Junior Rylan Jenks 168 and 202 (370).

Last week, South had three matches Tuesday through Thursday.

South Haven bowled against Martin on Dec. 16. "The lanes in Wayland did not agree with us as we came up just a bit short, losing the match 13-17 and missing totals by 23 pins. Needless to say, we were quite disappointed. We were also missing one of our key bowlers that night. A couple of bright spots on the night: senior Ryan O'dell had a 233 game, also Noah Maly a sophomore had a 161.

The match on Dec. 17 was against Gobles. "We had everyone back, bowling at full strength which led to another good night," Guthrie said.

Senior Jadon Schneider led the way with 215 and 199 (414), followed by senior Ryan O'dell with 216 and 165 (381).

First-year junior Rylan Jenks added 194 and 161 (355). The Rams won 24-6 with a total pin count of 1,666 to 1,288.

The match on Dec. 28 was vs Comstock. Again led by senior Jadon Schneider with 186 and 219 (405), followed by Junior Ryan O'dell with 205 and 195 (400)

Senior Brody Strebeck remains steady 167 and 191 (358), being chased by junior Rylan Jenks 163 and 194 (357). Again the Rams took the win, points were 28-2, while total pins were 1,776 to 1,523.

"Through all this season, our junior varsity team has remained undefeated and continues to bowl well," Guthrie said. "The future's looking good for the Rams too as we have a few of our JV guys that rotate regularly to participate in varsity matches from week to week. Hopefully they are gaining valuable experience and confidence, not only for this season, but especially for next year."

The Rams are 3-2 on the season and in the conference, looking to continue to trend up. The next match will be after Christmas break is over Jan. 7 vs. Coloma with Allegan to follow on Jan. 8.

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=• PUBLIC NOTICE •=

State of Michigan
36th Judicial Circuit - Family Division
Van Buren County
PUBLICATION OF HEARING
CASE NO. 25020178 NA
TO: Martin Nerio
IN THE MATTER OF: Eleah Gonzalez
A hearing regarding **Family Court Bench Trial** will be conducted by the court on **January 6th, 2026 at 2:00pm in Courtroom 2, 212 E. Paw Paw Street, Paw Paw MI 49079** before **Judge Jeffrey Dufon**.
You have the right to an attorney and the right to a trial by judge or jury.
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that **Martin Nerio** personally appear before the court at the time and place stated above.
This hearing may result in Court Jurisdiction over your child.

State of Michigan
Probate Court
Van Buren County
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
DECEDENT'S ESTATE
CASE NO. 2025-20251159-DE
Court address: 212 Paw Paw Street, Michigan 49079
Court phone: 269-657-8225
Estate of STEPHEN P. KOENIG, Deceased.
Date of Birth: July 1,1949 (7/1/1949)
TO ALL CREDITORS: **
NOTICE TO CREDITORS:
The decedent, **STEPHEN P. KOENIG,** died February 21,2025 (2/21/2025) .
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to **Terry M. Beiner,** personal representative, or to both the probate court at 212 Paw Paw Street, Paw Paw, Michigan 49079 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
December 16, 2025
Attorney
Barnard Schaefer P40114
161 Ottawa NW, Ste. 212
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
616-272-4361
Personal Representative:
Terry M. Beiner
10516 Salemo St NW
Albuquerque, NM 87114
505-533-9803

State of Michigan
Probate Court
Van Buren County
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
DECEDENT'S ESTATE
CASE NO. 20231203-DE
Court address: 212 Paw Paw Street, Michigan 49079
Court phone: 269-657-8225
Estate of BARBARA LYNN PECKSTEIN, Deceased.
Date of Birth: N/A
TO ALL CREDITORS: **
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, **BARBARA LYNN PECKSTEIN,** died September 17, 2023 (9/17/2023).
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to **Gary Stoner,** personal representative, or to both the probate court at 212 Paw Paw Street, Paw Paw, Michigan 49079 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
December 20, 2025
Attorney
Christopher P, Atallah P73224
805 Oakwood Drive, Ste. 125
Rochester, MI 48307
248-613-0007
Personal Representative:
Gary Stoner
1400 Quincy Drive
Mansfield, TX 76063
817-822-5819

State of Michigan
Probate Court
Van Buren County
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
DECEDENT'S ESTATE
CASE NO. 2025-1179-DE
Court address: 212 Paw Paw Street, Michigan 49079
Court phone: 269-657-8225
Estate of LA VON L. GILBERT, Deceased.
Date of Birth: March 13,1936
TO ALL CREDITORS: **
NOTICE TO CREDITORS:
The decedent, **LA VON L. GILBERT ,** died January 20,2025 (01/20/2025).
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to **Patricia May,** personal representative, or to both the probate court at 212 Paw Paw Street, Paw Paw, Michigan 49079 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
December 25, 2025
Attorney
Marcellus M. Lebbin, Esq. P78610
140 S. Front Street
Dowagiac, Michigan 49047
269-340-1141
Personal Representative:
Patricia May
35282 CR 681
Bangor, MI 49013
269-539-7974

County: Van Buren; Mtgr: John A. Gropp; Atty: Orlans; 1st Pub: 12/25/2025; Atty File #: 25-015501; Insurer: FHLMC
Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM on JANUARY 22, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.
Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by John A. Gropp, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Top Flite Financial, Inc., Mortgagee, dated January 29, 2021 and recorded February 8, 2021 in Liber 1713, Page 540 Van Buren County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by PHH Asset Services LLC, by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Sixty-Four Thousand Eight Hundred Five and 72/100 Dollars ($64,805.72).
Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the place of holding the circuit court within Van Buren County, Michigan at 1:00 PM on JANUARY 22, 2026.
Said premises are located in the Township of Bangor, Van Buren County Michigan, and are described as:
THE SOUTH 1/2 OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 29, TOWN 2 SOUTH, RANGE 16 WEST. ALSO THE SOUTH 90 FEET OF THE WEST 300 FEET OF THE NORTH 1/2 OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION.
41557 68th St, Bangor, Michigan 49013
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.
Dated: December 25, 2025
File No. 25-015501
Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC
Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400

(12-25)(01-15)

County: Van Buren; Mtgr: PennyMac Loan Services, LLC v. Travis Schuster; Atty: Trott Law P.C. - Trott Law P.C.; 1st Pub: 12/18/2025; Atty File #: 504518L03; Insurer: (unknown)
Van Buren County Circuit Court Case No. 25-074638-CH
NOTICE OF JUDICIAL SALE
The property described below shall be sold at public auction, by an authorized sheriff/deputy sheriff or county clerk/deputy county clerk, to the highest bidder, at the Circuit Court for the County of Van Buren, on the 5th of February, 2026 at 1:00 pm, local time.
On said day at said time, the following described property shall be sold: real property situated in the Township of Porter, County of Van Buren, State of Michigan, and is particularly described as: That part of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 8, Town 4 South, Range 13 West, described as Beginning at a point on the North and South 1/4 line of said Section, which is South 00 degrees 55 minutes 10 seconds East, 600.00 feet from the center of said Section 8, said beginning point being North 00 degrees 55 minutes 10 seconds West, 2034.10 feet from the South 1/4 post of said Section; thence South 00 degrees 55 minutes 10 seconds East along said 1/4 line, 375.00 feet; thence North 89 degrees 52 minutes 57 seconds West parallel with said East and West 1/4 line, 550.00 feet; thence North 00 degrees 55 minutes 10 seconds West parallel with said North and South 1/4 line, 375.00 feet; thence South 89 degrees 52 minutes 57 seconds East parallel with said East and West 1/4 line, 550.00 feet to the point of beginning Tax Parcel ID: 80-16-008-014-10 More commonly known as: 78560 M 40 Lawton, MI 49065 This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of Notice: 12/18/2025 Trott Law, P.C.
1580064

(12-18)(01-22)

County: Van Buren; Mtgr: James L Wellington; Atty: Team X; 1st Pub: 12/18/2025; Atty File #: 527183F01; Insurer: (unknown)
Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM, on January 15, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:
Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): James L. Willington a single man
Original Mortgagee: FINANCIAL FREEDOM SENIOR FUNDING CORPORATION , A SUBSIDIARY OFINDYMAC BANK, F.S.B.
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): GITSIT Solutions, LLC, not in its individual capacity but solely in its capacity as Separate Trustee of GV Trust 2025-1
Date of Mortgage: January 8, 2007
Date of Mortgage Recording: January 19, 2007
Amount claimed due on date of notice: $138,267.29
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Geneva, Van Buren County, Michigan, and described as: Commencing at the Southwest corner of the Northwest fractional 1/4 of Section 1, Town 1 South,
Range 16 West, According to the Government Survey thereof; thence North on the West Section
line, 6 rods; thence East 11 rods; thence South 6 rods to the East and West 1/4 line; thence West
on same to beginning.
Common street address (if any): 02045 County Road 681, Grand Junction, MI 49056-9587
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.
Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: December 18, 2025
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1579893

(12-18)(01-08)

County: Van Buren; Mtgr: Aleene Russ; Atty: KREIS ENDERLE - KALAMAZOO - KREIS ENDERLE - KALAMAZOO; 1st Pub: 12/18/2025; Atty File #: (N/A); Insurer: (unknown)
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF LIEN AGAINST CONDOMINIUM UNIT IN THE LIGHTHOUSE VILLAGE AT LIFESTYLES OF SOUTH HAVEN CONDOMINIUM
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the certain Lien Against Condominium Unit in the Lighthouse Village at Lifestyles of South Haven Condominium ("Lien") will be foreclosed by a sale of the premises (as defined below) at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the Circuit Court in Van Buren County, Michigan, starting promptly at January 22, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. The amount due on the Lien may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than ninety (90) days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the lien at the telephone number stated in this notice.
Lighthouse Village at Lifestyles of South Haven Condominium Association ("Association") recorded the aforementioned Lien, dated September 9, 2024, against the premises owned by Aleene Russ, a single woman ("Owner"), which address is 72177 Beacon Court, Unit 37, South Haven, Michigan 49090 (the "Premises"). The Premises is a Unit in the Lighthouse Village at Lifestyles of South Haven Condominium. The Lien was recorded on September 9, 2024, in the Van Buren County Register of Deeds, at Liber 1769, Page 818. As of December 18, 2025, the amount claimed to be due under the Lien is the sum of Seven Thousand One Hundred Forty and 00/100 Dollars ($7,140.00), including interest and attorney fees. This sum will increase as additional interest, costs, expenses, and attorney fees accrue under the Lien which are permitted under Michigan law. Under the power of sale contained in the Condominium Bylaws and under Section 108 of the Michigan Condominium Act, as amended, notice is hereby given that the Lien will be foreclosed by sale of the Premises at public sale to the highest bidder at the Van Buren County Courthouse, which address is 212 East Paw Paw Street, 2nd Floor, Paw Paw, Michigan 49079, and which is the place of the holding of the Circuit Court for Van Buren County, State of Michigan, on January 22, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. The Premises is situated in the Township of South Haven, County of Van Buren, State of Michigan and legally described as follows: Unit 37, Lighthouse Village at Lifestyles of South Haven Condominium, a Condominium according to the Master Deed recorded in Liber 1453 on Page 859 inclusive, and amendments thereto and designated as Van Buren County Condominium Subdivision Plan No. 102, together with rights in general common elements and limited common elements as set forth in said Master Deed and as described in Act 59 of Public Acts of 1978, as amended. Premises Address: 72177 Beacon Court, Unit 37, South Haven, Michigan 49090 Premises Tax ID: 80-17-171-037-00 If the Premises is eventually sold at foreclosure sale, the redemption period will be six (6) months from the date of sale, unless the Premises is abandoned, in which case the redemption period may be shortened in accordance with Michigan law. If the Premises is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the Owner and any other person liable on the Lien will be held responsible to the person who buys the Premises at the foreclosure sale or to the Lien holder for damaging the Premises during the redemption period. Dated: December 18, 2025 LIEN HOLDER: LIGHTHOUSE VILLAGE AT LIFESTYLES OF SOUTH HAVEN CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION c/o LASR ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT ATTN: KATELYN SCOFIELD-STANFILL 764 LAGRANGE SOUTH HAVEN MI 49090 Attorneys for the Lighthouse Village at Lifestyles of South Haven Condominium Association: Kreis, Enderle, Hudgins & Borsos, P.C. By: Jeffrey D. Swenarton 750 Trade Centre Way, Suite 250 Portage, Michigan 4900

(12-18)(01-08)

County: Van Buren; Mtgr: Nancy E Reinhardt; Atty: Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C. - Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C.; 1st Pub: 12/11/2025; Atty File #: 14MI00682-5; Insurer: (unknown)
FORECLOSURE NOTICE
Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 01:00 PM, January 8, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Nancy E. Reinhardt, single to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., its successors and assigns, Mortgagee, dated October 26, 2006, and recorded on November 7, 2006, in Liber 1472, Page 464, Van Buren County Records, said mortgage was assigned to The Bank of New York Mellon FKA The Bank of New York, as Trustee for the Certificateholders of the CWABS, Inc., Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2006-22 by an Assignment of Mortgage dated May 04, 2012 and recorded May 14, 2012 in Liber 1567, Page 462, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Forty-Nine Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty-Two and 53/100 ($149,862.53) including interest at the rate of 3.00000% per annum. Said premises are situated in the Township of Almena, Van Buren County, Michigan, and are described as: Beginning on the North line of Section 36, Town 2 South, Range 13 West at a point 430.00 feet South 88 degrees 45 minutes 57 seconds West of the Northeast corner of the Section; thence South 88 degrees 45 minutes 57 seconds West on the Section line, 153 feet; thence South 01 degrees 10 minutes 20 seconds East parallel with the East Section line, 462.00 feet; thence North 88 degrees 45 minutes 57 seconds East 153.00 feet; thence North 01 degrees 10 minutes 20 seconds West 462.00 feet to the place of beginning. Commonly known as: 22185 44TH AVE, MATTAWAN, MI 49071 If the property is eventually sold at foreclosure sale, the redemption period will be 6.00 months from the date of sale unless the property is abandoned or used for agricultural purposes. If the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 and/or 600.3241a, the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of sale, or 15 days after statutory notice, whichever is later. If the property is presumed to be used for agricultural purposes prior to the date of the foreclosure sale pursuant to MCL 600.3240, the redemption period is 1 year. Pursuant to MCL 600.3278, if the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, the borrower(s) will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages are, if any, limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. Dated: December 11, 2025 Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C. Attorneys for The Bank of New York Mellon FKA The Bank of New York, as Trustee for the Certificateholders of the CWABS, Inc., Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2006-22 43252 Woodward Avenue, Suite 180, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302, (248) 335-9200 Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Case No. 14MI00682-5

(12-11)(01-01)

County: Van Buren; Mtgr: Terry M. Gordnier; Atty: Team X; 1st Pub: 12/11/2025; Atty File #: 526346F01; Insurer: (unkown)
Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM, on January 8, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:
Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Terry M. Gordnier, a single man
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): GITSIT Solutions, LLC, not in its individual capacity but solely in its capacity as Separate Trustee of GV Trust 2025-1
Date of Mortgage: December 31, 2013
Date of Mortgage Recording: January 13, 2014
Amount claimed due on date of notice: $75,567.57
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Almena, Van Buren County, Michigan, and described as: Commencing at the West Quarter Post of Section 22 Town 2 South Range 13 West; thence East on the East and West quarter line 163 feet; thence South 00 degrees 27 minutes 30 seconds West 209 feet; thence West 163 feet to the West Section line; thence North 00 degrees 27 minutes 30 seconds East on same to beginning.
Common street address (if any): 27939 38th Ave, Paw Paw, MI 49079-9429
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.
Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: December 11, 2025
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1579567

(12-11)(01-01)

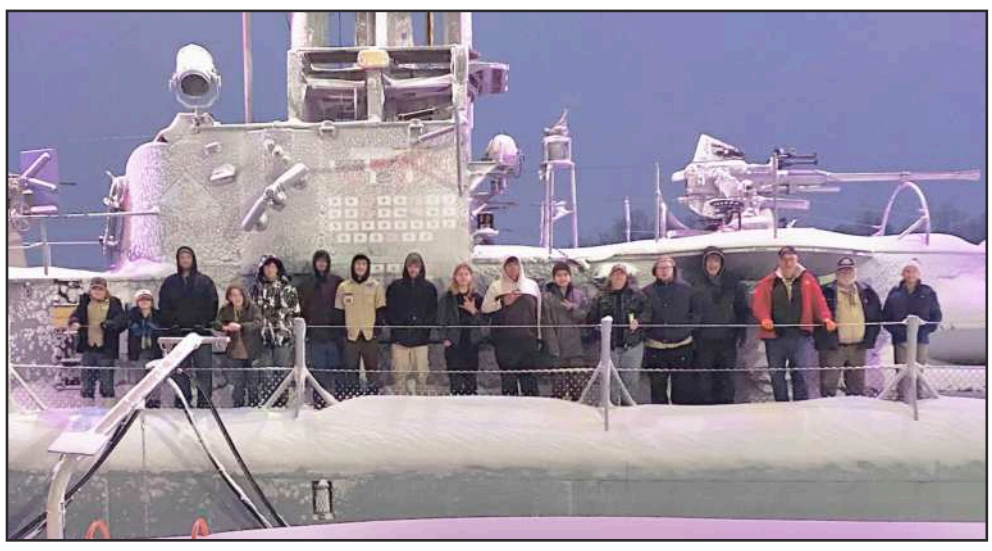
County: Van Buren; Mtgr: James Marble; Atty: Johnson, Blumberg, and Associates - Johnson, Blumberg, and Associates ; 1st Pub: 12/11/2025; Atty File #: MI 25 6843; Insurer: (unknown)
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT.
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in VAN BUREN County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM, on January 8, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.
MORTGAGE INFORMATION:
Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by James Marble, a single man, whose address is 410 East Paw Paw Street, Paw Paw, Michigan 49079, as original Mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Rocket Mortgage, LLC, being a mortgage dated February 6, 2024, and recorded on February 13, 2024 in Liber 1761 Page 885, Van Buren County Records, State of Michigan and then assigned to Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC, as assignee as documented by an assignment dated November 25, 2025 and recorded on November 26, 2025 in Liber 1786 Page 619, Van Buren County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of EIGHTY-NINE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED SIXTEEN AND 07/100 DOLLARS ($89,416.07). Said premises are situated in the Village of Paw Paw, County of Van Buren, State of Michigan, and are described as: LOT 6 AND THE WEST 20 FEET OF LOT 7, BLOCK 29, THE VILLAGE OF PAW PAW, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN LIBER E OF DEEDS, PAGE 566, VAN BUREN COUNTY.
Street Address: 410 East Paw Paw Street, Paw Paw, Michigan 49079 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA § 600.3241a in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCLA § 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: IF YOU ARE A MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER ON ACTIVE DUTY, IF YOUR PERIOD OF ACTIVE DUTY HAS CONCLUDED LESS THAN 90 DAYS AGO, OR IF YOU HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY, PLEASE CONTACT THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PARTY FORECLOSING THE MORTGAGE AT THE TELEPHONE NUMBER STATED IN THIS NOTICE.
Dated: December 11, 2025
For more information, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing: Robert A. Blumberg (P87490), Johnson, Blumberg, & Associates, LLC, 30 North LaSalle St., Suite 3650 Chicago, Illinois, 60602. Telephone: (312) 541-9710 File No.: MI 25 6843

(12-11)(01-01)

County: Van Buren; Mtgr: 7338 HARDISTY LLC; Atty: ROBERTSON ANSCHUT SCHNEID CRANE & PARTNERS - ROBERTSON ANSCHUTZ SCHNEID CRANE & PARTNERS; 1st Pub: 12/11/2025; Atty File #:

Continues on page 9

Lawrence scouts spend night on World War WWII submarine



Lawrence Troop 197 and Lawrence Pack 197 recently spent the night on a World War II combat submarine, the USS Silverside. The group honored military veterans and learned more about what the veterans went through during World War II. Troop members had the opportunity to sleep on the submarine in the actual bunks. The submarine, which had a well decorated combat record, is in Muskegon. The submarine has two large diesel engines which are still operational and are turned on during special occasions during the year. A troop from Chicago joined the Lawrence group during their stay. The Lawrence group meets weekly at the Lawrence United Methodist Church and is sponsored by the Lawrence American Legion Hess-Eastman Post 174. Photos courtesy/Barry Carpp

Decatur VFW hosts visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus

The Decatur VFW on Saturday, Dec. 13, served as a host for a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus. Those who attended the Children's Christmas Party had the opportunity to make and take a variety of crafts. Photos courtesy/Decatur VFW

=• PUBLIC NOTICE •=

Continues from page 8

25-303401; Insurer: (unknown)
ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, SCHNEID, CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC, MAY BE DEEMED A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT.
ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT 13010 Morris Road, Suite 450, Alpharetta, GA 30004 ph:470-321-7112 Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in VAN BUREN County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM on January 08, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information: Name of the mortgagor: Adam Wright, as Manager of 7338 Hardisty LLC. Default has been made in the conditions of a Mortgage made by 7338 HARDISTY LLC, to INVESTOR MORTGAGE FINANCE LLC, original Mortgagee, for a mortgage dated June 30, 2022, and recorded on July 12, 2022, in Liber 1740 Page 708 in the Van Buren County Register of Deeds. Said mortgage was assigned by said Mortgagee through mesne assignments to U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE OF THE LB-TIKI SERIES VI TRUST, as documented by an assignment of mortgage dated September 3, 2025, and recorded on October 31, 2025, in Liber 1785 Page 578 in the VAN BUREN County Register of Deeds, on which Mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of $624,549.83. Under the power of sale contained in said Mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the Circuit Court within VAN BUREN County, Michigan on January 08, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. Said premises are located in the city of GOBLES in VAN BUREN County, Michigan and are described as: SITUATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF PINE GROVE, COUNTY OF VAN BUREN, AND STATE OF MICHIGAN: PART OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 14, TOWN 1 SOUTH, RANGE 13 WEST, DESCRIBED AS BEGINNING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 14; THENCE SOUTH ALONG THE WEST LINE OF SAID SECTION, 660.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 37 MINUTES 45 SECONDS EAST, PARALLEL WITH THE NORTH LINE OF SAID SECTION, 660.00 FEET; THENCE NORTH PARALLEL WITH THE WEST LINE OF SAID SECTION, 660.00 FEET TO THE NORTH LINE OF SECTION 14; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 37 MINUTES 45 SECONDS WEST, ALONG SAID NORTH LINE, 660.00 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING. Property Address: 8221 26TH ST. GOBLES MI, 49055 Tax ID No. 80-15-014-011-02 The redemption period shall be Six (6) months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If this property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the Mortgage sale or to the Mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE OF THE LB-TIKI SERIES VI TRUST, Mortgagee/Assignee December 11th, 2025 ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, SCHNEID, CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC Attorney for Mortgagee/ Assignee 13010 Morris Road, Suite 450 Alpharetta, GA 30004 Telephone: 470-321-7112 Facsimile: 404-393-1425 Service Email: MIFCLTeam@raslg.com

(12-11)(01-01)

County: Van Buren; Mtgr: Mary Dykstra; Atty: Team X; 1st Pub: 12/4/2025; Atty File #: 515603F02; Insurer: (unknown)
Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM, on January 8, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:
Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Marvin D. Dykstra, a married man and Mary L. Dykstra, a married woman husband and wife
Original Mortgagee: Washington Mortgage Company, a Michigan Corporation
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): HSBC Bank USA, National Association as Trustee in Trust for Citigroup Mortgage Loan Trust Inc., asset backed pass through certificates series 2003-HE3
Date of Mortgage: May 14, 1999
Date of Mortgage Recording: May 20, 1999
Amount claimed due on date of notice: $15,037.35
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Almena, Van Buren County, Michigan, and described as: Lot 11, Green Acres, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 7 of Plats, on Page 38 in Van Buren County Records.
Common street address (if any): 39388 Sandyridge Cir, Mattawan, MI 49071-9750
The redemption period shall be 1 year from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a.
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.
Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: December 4, 2025
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1578751

(12-04)(12-25)

GOBLES PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOOLS OF CHOICE PROGRAM 2025-2026

Gobles Public School District recognizes the Schools of Choice Program adopted by the Michigan legislature and plans to implement the Schools of Choice Program for the 2025-2026 school year. Gobles Public Schools will accept applications from non-resident students residing within the Van Buren Intermediate School District boundaries, and in school districts located in contiguous intermediate school districts for the 2025-2026 school year under the Schools of Choice Program and will comply with the deadlines and requirements set forth by the law.

Applications for the Schools of Choice Program are available on line at (www.gobles.org) and in the Superintendent's Office and will be accepted beginning January 5, 2026 through January 23, 2026. The District will notify the parent or legal guardian of each nonresident applicant who is accepted for enrollment of the date by which the student must enroll and the procedures for enrollment.

American Towers LLC is proposing to collocate antennas at a centerline height of 182 feet on an existing 214.6-foot telecommunications tower at 66174 M-43 Highway, Bangor, Van Buren County, Michigan 49013, tax parcel ID 8342880. American Towers LLC seeks comments from all interested persons on any potential significant impact the proposed action could have on the quality of the human environment pursuant to 47 C.F.R. Section 1.1307, including potential impacts to historic or cultural resources that are listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Interested persons may comment or raise concerns about the proposed action by submitting an e-mail to enviro.services@americantower.com. Paper comments can be sent to: American Towers LLC, Attn: Environmental Compliance, 10 Presidential Way, Woburn, MA 01801. Interested persons may also comment or raise environmental impact concerns about the proposed action by filing a Request for Environmental Review with the FCC. Paper filings can be sent to: FCC Requests for Environmental Review, Attn: Ramon Williams, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554. The Request must also be sent to American Towers LLC, by e-mailing a copy to enviro.services@americantower.com or mailing a copy to: American Tower, 10 Presidential Way, Woburn, MA 01801 ATTN: Environmental Compliance. Requests or comments should be limited to environmental and historic/cultural resource impact concerns and must be received on or within 30 days of this publication. This invitation to comment is separate from any local planning/zoning process that may apply to this project (Ref. EBI Project #250056593PR).

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PAW PAW TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION 2026 MASTER PLAN UPDATE

The Paw Paw Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing regarding the 2026 Paw Paw Township Master Plan Update. This long-range plan will guide growth, preservation, investment, and future land use decisions in Paw Paw Township. The public is invited to learn about the plan and comment on the matter.

- Location: Paw Paw Township Hall, 114 N. Gremps St., Paw Paw, MI, 49079
- Date: Tuesday, January 20, 2026
- Time: Open house from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm. Presentation and official public hearing at 6:30 pm.
- Hearing and project information: call 269-657-4340 or email clerk@pawpawtownship.org

The draft plan is available at the Township office and can also be accessed here: https://pawpawtownshipmi.gov/paw-paw-township-master-plan/

Those unable to attend the public hearing are invited to submit written comments to the attention of the Planning Commission Chair at the Township Hall address listed above by 4:00 PM on the meeting date. If any individual has a physical disability that may limit their participation in the hearing, please notify the Township at least five (5) days prior to the hearing so that reasonable accommodations may be made.

=• CLASSIFIEDS •=

• WANTED •

WE BUY OLD BASEBALL CARDS, OTHER SPORTS MEMORABILIA AND OLD VINTAGE COINS. CAN BE REACHED AT 517-416-1629. WE PAY CASH.

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• SERVICES •

TIM'S STUMP GRINDING SERVICE- I believe in respectable service. 269-299-5052, 269-624-6884.

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FIELD PLUMBING & HEATING, INC. Services all brands of heating & cooling equipment in your home or business. 24/7 service for over 50 years, 269-674-3839.

BUYING JUNK CARS, trucks, scrap metal and farm machinery. Kalamazoo Metal Recyclers, 1525 King Highway, Kalamazoo. 269-381-1315.
PRO HANDYMAN SERVICE
SOUTH HAVEN AREA Call 269-903-6397.

MEDICARE INSURANCE RATES GOING UP
Call for a quote today Janet Bontrager Insurance Advisor (269) 998-6977

FOR MORE INFO OR TO PLACE AN AD

Call (269) 657-3072 or 657-5080 BEFORE MONDAY AT 5PM

SERVICE DIRECTORY

BANGOR MINI STORAGE
31375 52 STREET, BANGOR MICHIGAN 49013
$10 OFF THE MONTH OF OCTOBER
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL
269-674-1330

THE SHED SELF STORAGE
LAWTON, MI
THESHEDSELFSTORAGE.COM
269-200-2156

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grantdalypainting@gmail.com
BBB A+ Rating
GRANT DALY PAINTING, LLC
"Let me take the pain out of painting"
Quality Work · Reasonable Rates · References
Residential · Commercial · Free Estimates
Interior · Exterior · Dry-wall Repair
Serving Southwest Michigan

ROLLING ACRES MINI BARNS
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Greenhouses, Outhouses, Tiny Homes,
Custom Swing Sets
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